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ABSTRACT

This pamphlet was developed to facilitate responding to common inquiries about the California community colleges. In single-paragraph answers, it deals with 19 frequently asked questions: (1) What are the California community colleges? (2) How do I know if I am eligible to attend? (3) As a resident of another state, am I still eligible? (4) If I recently came to the United States from a foreign country, may I attend? (5) How do I apply to a community college? (6) What is a "community college district" and must I attend a college in my district? (7) Must I pay tuition? (8) What is the estimated average of total student costs? (9) Can I obtain my high school diploma at a community college? (10) May I complete my first two years of undergraduate study? (11) Can I receive training for a specific occupational skill at a community college? (12) What are the graduation requirements? (13) Is student financial aid available? (14) Are there any special programs available for economically disadvantaged students? (15) Are dormitories or student housing provided? (16) Are there special services to assist students with handicaps? (17) Are evening courses available? (18) If I am a middle-aged person working part-time, will I feel out of place? and (19) What if I speak very little English? A list of the colleges, with their addresses and telephone numbers, is also provided. (AYC)

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Since You Asked . . .

INFORMATION ON THE

CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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JC 800 355

Thank you for inquiring about the California Community Colleges! We receive hundreds of letters a year and are sorry that we are unable to answer each one individually. We hope this pamphlet answers the questions you had; if not, please write or call the Chancellor's Office or a college listed in the back of the pamphlet.

Special thanks to Michael Karr, president of the California Community College Student Government Association

1979-80

Q - WHAT ARE THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

A - The California Community Colleges are 106 publicly funded two year postsecondary education institutions. They serve the entire state from Eureka and Weed in the north to Imperial Valley and Chula Vista in the south.

Q - HOW DO I KNOW IF I AM ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - If you are a California resident with a high school diploma or the equivalent, you are eligible for admission to a community college. But you need not have a diploma as long as you are over 18 years of age and could benefit from instruction. Recent legislation also allows students of any grade to enroll, provided the student has consent of the school principal and acceptance by the college president.

Q - AS A RESIDENT OF ANOTHER STATE, AM I STILL ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - Yes, but a non-resident tuition fee will be charged. In 1979 this tuition averaged $42 per unit taken at a community college, but varies from district to district. In order to become a California resident and receive a tuition free community college education, a student must reside in California for one year or more. Consult the local college admissions office for specific information on non-resident tuition costs.

Q - IF I RECENTLY CAME TO THE UNITED STATES FROM A FOREIGN COUNTRY, MAY I ATTEND A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - Foreign students may attend a California Community College provided the student has a high school diploma or equivalent or could benefit from instruction. In most cases a non-resident tuition charge is levied. Other requirements vary from college to college. For specific information, please check with the local college admissions office.

Q - HOW DO I APPLY TO A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - Students desiring admission to a community college should consult the local college admissions office where they wish to attend. Students seeking a degree or certificate must also submit high school and college (where applicable) transcripts at the time of enrollment.

Q - WHAT IS A "COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT" AND MUST I ATTEND A COLLEGE IN MY DISTRICT?

A - A community college district is a geographical region in which one or more community colleges are located. There are 70 community college districts in California. Students are prohibited by law from attending a community college outside of their district. However, a limited number of students may attend a college in another district, but only after getting prior approval from the district in which they reside. The local college admissions office has more information.

Q - MUST I PAY TUITION TO ATTEND A CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - No, California Community Colleges are tuition free, provided certain residency requirements are met. Certain fees are authorized for expenses such as health services, parking and instructional materials. Such fees average $10-15 per term. In addition, fees can also be charged for classes that are not eligible for state apportionment. Thus, students may be required to pay a fee for recreation, community service and certain adult classes.

Q - WHAT IS THE ESTIMATED AVERAGE TOTAL COSTS FOR ME TO ATTEND A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - The average costs to students attending a community college range from $1835 - $2420 for a single commuter student to $4795 - $6190 for a married student with no children. These costs are calculated on a student's yearly living expenses, text books and supplies.

Q - CAN I RECEIVE MY HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - Some community colleges offer courses which lead to satisfaction of high school requirements. However, no course taken to fulfill high school requirements may be counted towards an Associate in Arts or Associate in Science degree or certificate of completion requirements. Consult the local college counseling office to find out any special requirements.

Q - MAY I COMPLETE MY FIRST TWO YEARS OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDY AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - Yes, all community colleges offer courses fulfilling undergraduate requirements of a four-year college or university. Consult with a college counselor to ensure that all courses taken are transferable. Students should also refer to the four-year college or university catalogs to ensure that all the requirements have been met.

Q - IF I AM INTERESTED IN RECEIVING TRAINING FOR A SPECIFIC OCCUPATIONAL SKILL, DO COMMUNITY COLLEGES OFFER SUCH COURSES?

A - California Community Colleges offer a wide variety of occupational and apprenticeship training as well as other vocational education programs. The local community college catalogs best describe which programs are offered.

Q - WHAT ARE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION FROM A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - Specific graduation requirements vary, but generally a student must complete 60 - 64 semester units of credit, which typically takes 2 - 2 1/2 years. Students are required to follow a general education program that requires selected courses from the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and learning skills. Vocational and occupational certificate requirements vary. Students should consult with a local college counselor to determine the best program for their needs.

Q - IS STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AVAILABLE AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

A - Yes, each college has a financial aid office which administers a variety of aid packages. Scholarships, loans, grants, veterans and work/study programs are available to students in need of financial assistance. Visit the local college financial aid office to find out what is available to you.

Q - IF I AM AN ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENT, ARE THERE ANY SPECIAL PROGRAMS TO ASSIST ME?

A - Yes, many economically disadvantaged students receive financial and educational assistance through Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS). To find out if you meet the eligibility requirements, consult with the local college EOPS director or financial aid officer.

Q - DO ANY COMMUNITY COLLEGES PROVIDE DORMITORIES OR STUDENT HOUSING?

A - Since most community colleges are designed to provide education for local residents, only a few community colleges maintain dormitory or residence halls. However, the student activities office at the college normally provides a referral service for housing available in the college's vicinity.

Q - IF I AM A STUDENT WITH A HANDICAP OR DISABILITY, DO COMMUNITY COLLEGES OFFER ANY SERVICES TO ASSIST ME?

A - Yes, every community college offers support services to aid physically limited students beyond the other available college services. These services focus on integrating the physically limited student into the regular college program.

Q - IF I WORK FULL-TIME DURING THE DAY, ARE THERE ANY EVENING COURSES AVAILABLE AT COMMUNITY COLLEGES?

A - Yes, every community college offers evening courses that can lead to the same degrees and certificates available to day students.

Q - IF I AM A MIDDLE-AGED PERSON WORKING PART-TIME, WILL I FEEL OUT OF PLACE AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE?

A - No, a diversity of students attend community colleges. The average age of community college students is 26 years, and three-quarters of community college students work full or part-time. The wide variety of courses are offered will no doubt meet your needs.

Q - WHAT IF I SPEAK VERY LITTLE ENGLISH?

A - Limited English speaking abilities can be overcome through college courses designed for students who speak English as a second language. Every college offers some type of program for these students.

ADDRESS LIST OF CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

COLLEGE	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Alameda, College of	555 Atlantic Avenue, Alameda 94501	(415) 522-7221
Allan Hancock College	800 South College Drive, Santa Maria 93454	(805) 922-6966
American River College	4700 College Oak Drive, Sacramento 95841	(916) 484-8011
Antelope Valley College	3041 West Avenue K, Lancaster 93534	(805) 943-3241
Bakersfield College	1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield 93305	(805) 395-4011
Barstow College	2700 Barstow Road, Barstow 92311	(714) 252-2411
Butte College	Rt. 1, Box 183A, Oroville 95965	(916) 895-2511
Cabrillo College	6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos 95003	(408) 425-6000
Canada College	4200 Farm Hill Boulevard, Redwood City 94061	(415) 364-1212
Canyons, College of the	26455 N. Rockwell Canyon Road, Valencia 91355	(805) 259-7800
Cerritos College	11110 East Alondra Boulevard, Norwalk 90650	(213) 860-2451
Cerro Coso Community College	Ridgecrest 93555	(714) 375-5001
Chabot College	25555 Hesperian Boulevard, Hayward 94545	(415) 786-6600
Chaffey College	5885 Haven Avenue, Alta Loma 91701	(714) 987-1737
Citrus College	18824 East Foothill Boulevard, Azusa 91702	(213) 335-0521
Coastline Community College	10231 Slater Avenue, Fountain Valley 92708	(714) 963-0811
Columbia College	PO Box 1849, Columbia 95310	(209) 532-3141
Compton Community College	1111 East Artesia Boulevard, Compton 90221	(213) 636-3391
Contra Costa College	2600 Mission Bell Drive, San Pablo 94806	(415) 235-7800
Consumnes River College	8401 Center Parkway, Sacramento 95823	(916) 421-1000
Crafton Hills College	11711 Sand Canyon Road, Yucaipa 92399	(714) 794-2161
Cuesta College	PO Box J, San Luis Obispo S3406	(805) 544-2943
Cuyamaca College	2950 Jamacha Road, El Cajon 92020	(714) 464-1980
Cypress College	9200 Valley View Street, Cypress 90630	(714) 826-2220
De Anza College	21250 Stevens Creek Road, Cupertino 95014	(408) 996-4567
Desert, College of the	43-500 Monterey Avenue, Palm Desert 92260	(714) 346-8041
Diablo Valley College	321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill 94523	(415) 685-1230
East Los Angeles College	1301 Brooklyn Avenue, Monterey Park 91754	(213) 265-8650
El Camino College	16007 Crenshaw Boulevard, Via Torrance 90506	(213) 532-3670
Evergreen Valley College	3095 Yerba Buena Road, San Jose 95121	(408) 274-7900
Feather River College	Highway 70 North, PO Box 1110, Quincy 95971	(916) 283-0202
Foothill College	12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills 94022	(415) 948-8590
Fresno City College	1101 East University Avenue, Fresno 93741	(209) 442-4600
Fullerton College	321 East Chapman Avenue, Fullerton 92634	(714) 871-8000
Gavilan College	5055 Santa Teresa Boulevard, Gilroy 95020	(408) 847-1400
Glendale College	1500 North Verdugo Road, Glendale 91208	(213) 240-1000
Golden West College	15744 Golden West Street, Huntington Beach 92647	(714) 892-7711
Grossmont College	8800 Grossmont College Drive, El Cajon 92020	(714) 465-1700
Hartnell College	156 Homestead Avenue, Salinas 93901	(408) 758-8211
Imperial Valley College	PO Box 158, Imperial 92251	(714) 352-8320
Indian Valley Colleges	720 Ignacio Boulevard, Novato 94947	(415) 883-2211
Lake Tahoe Community College	2659 Lake Tahoe Blvd., PO Box 14445, S. Lake Tahoe 95702	(916) 541-4660
Laney College	900 Fallon Street, Oakland 94607	(415) 834-5740
Lassen College	Highway 139, PO Box 3000, Susanville 96130	(916) 257-6181
Long Beach City College	4900 East Carson Street, Long Beach 90808	(213) 420-4111
Los Angeles City College	855 North Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles 90029	(213) 663-9141
Los Angeles Harbor College	1111 Figueroa Place, Wilmington 90744	(213) 518-1000
Los Angeles Mission College	1101 San Fernando Road, San Fernando 91340	(213) 365-8271
Los Angeles Pierce College	6201 Winnetka Avenue, Woodland Hills 91371	(213) 347-0551
Los Angeles Southwest College	1600 West Imperial Highway, Los Angeles 90047	(213) 777-2225
Los Angeles Trade-Tech. College	400 West Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles 90015	(213) 746-0800
Los Angeles Valley College	5800 Fulton Avenue, Van Nuys 91401	(213) 781-1200
Los Medanos College	2700 East Leland Road, Pittsburg 94565	(415) 439-2181
Marin, College of	Kentfield 94904	(415) 457-8811
Mendocino College	PO Box 3000, Ukiah 95482	(707) 462-0571
Merced College	3600 M Street, Merced 95340	(209) 723-4321
Merritt College	12500 Campus Drive, Oakland 94619	(415) 531-4911
Mira Costa College	One Barnard Drive, Oceanside 92054	(714) 757-2121
Mission College	3585 Monroe Street, Santa Clara 95051	(408) 988-2200
Modesto Junior College	College Avenue, Modesto 95350	(209) 526-2000
Monterey Peninsula College	980 Fremont Boulevard, Monterey 93940	(408) 649-1150
Moorpark College	7075 Campus Road, Moorpark 93021	(805) 529-2321
Mt. San Antonio College	1100 North Grand Avenue, Walnut 91789	(714) 594-5611
Mt. San Jacinto College	21-400 Highway 79, San Jacinto 92383	(714) 654-7321
Napa College	2277 Napa-Vallejo Highway, Napa 94558	(707) 255-2100
Ohlone College	43600 Mission Blvd., PO Box 3909, Fremont 94538	(415) 657-2100
Orange Coast College	2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa 92626	(714) 556-5651
Oxnard College	3471 South Saviers Road, PO Box 1600, Oxnard 93030	(805) 488-0911

Palo Verde College	811 West Chanslorway, Blythe 92225	(714) 922-6168
Palomar College	1140 West Mission, San Marcos 92069	(714) 744-1150
Pasadena City College	1570 East Colorado Boulevard, Pasadena 91106	(213) 578-7123
Porterville College	900 South Main Street, Porterville 93257	(209) 781-3130
Redwoods, College of the	Eureka 95501	(707) 443-8411
Reedley College	995 North Reed Avenue, Reedley 93654	(209) 638-3641
Rio Hondo College	3600 Workman Mill Road, Whittier 90608	(213) 692-0921
Riverside City College	4800 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside 92506	(714) 684-3240
Sacramento City College	3835 Freeport Boulevard, Sacramento 95822	(916) 449-7111
Saddleback College	28000 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo 92675	(714) 831-4500
San Bernardino Valley College	701 South Mt. Vernon Avenue, San Bernardino 92403	(714) 888-6511
San Diego City College	1313 - 12th Avenue, San Diego 92101	(714) 238-1181
San Diego Evening College	3375 del Rio South, San Diego 92108	(714) 280-7610
San Diego Mesa College	7250 Mesa College Drive, San Diego 92111	(714) 279-2300
San Diego Miramar College	10440 Black Mountain Road, San Diego 92126	(714) 271-7300
San Francisco, City College of	50 Phelan Avenue, San Francisco 94112	(415) 587-7272
San Joaquin Delta College	5151 Pacific Avenue, Stockton 95207	(209) 478-2011
San Jose City College	2100 Moorpark Avenue, San Jose 95128	(408) 298-2181
San Mateo, College of	1700 West Hillsdale Boulevard, San Mateo 94402	(415) 574-6161
Santa Ana College	Seventeenth at Bristol, Santa Ana 92706	(714) 835-3000
Santa Barbara City College	721 Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara 93109	(805) 965-0581
Santa Monica College	1900 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica 90405	(213) 450-5150
Santa Rosa Junior College	1501 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa 95401	(707) 527-4011
Sequoias, College of the	915 South Mooney Boulevard, Visalia 93277	(209) 733-2050
Shasta College	1065 North Old Oregon Trail, Redding 96001	(916) 241-3523
Sierra College	5000 Rocklin Road, Rocklin 95677	(916) 624-3333
Siskiyous, College of the	800 College Avenue, Weed 96094	(916) 938-4463
Skyline College	3300 College Drive, San Bruno 94066	(415) 355-7000
Solano Community College	Suisun Valley Road, PO Box 246, Suisun City 94585	(707) 864-7000
Southwestern College	900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista 92010	(714) 421-6700
Taft College	29 Emmons Park Drive, Taft 93268	(805) 765-4191
Ventura College	4667 Telegraph Road, Ventura 93003	(805) 642-3211
Victor Valley Community College	18422 Bear Valley Road, PO Drawer 00, Victorville 92392	(714) 245-4271
Vista College	2020 Milvia Street, Suite 200, Berkeley 94704	(415) 841-8431
West Hills College	300 Cherry Lane, Coalinga 93210	(209) 935-0801
West Los Angeles College	4800 Freshman Drive, Culver City 90230	(213) 836-7110
West Valley College	14000 Fruitvale Avenue, Saratoga 95070	(408) 867-2200
Yuba College	2088 North Beale Road, Marysville 95901	(916) 742-7351

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